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NEWMAYER, S. W. *Medical and Sanitary Inspection of Schools*. Pp. vi, 318. Price, \$2.50. Philadelphia: Lea and Febiger, 1913.

As the author states in his preface, this book is designed to furnish to physicians, nurses and teachers a guide to the physical examination of school children, and it attempts to develop a deeper appreciation of the relations between mental and physical development.

In the section dealing with the administration of medical and sanitary inspection special emphasis is placed on the importance of the school nurse as an aid to the physician and the belief is expressed that if legislatures will make mandatory the employment of both school nurses and physicians, much greater efficiency will result than where physicians only are employed and there will be no need for legislation designed to compel the parent to obtain treatment recommended for the child. An especially commendable feature of the book is the inclusion of forms used in a proper system of record keeping. The chapter on infectious, contagious and communicable diseases and that on physical defects discusses the most important of these diseases and defects with a view to enabling the person in charge to determine the trouble and take steps to meet it by proper methods. In the discussion of mentality an attempt is made to determine the extent and analyze the causes of retardation. The allotment of 34 pages of a 300-page book to an explanation of the Binet system of testing mentality may seem excessive even in face of a desire to emphasize this portion of the book. As a whole, Dr. Newmayer's book furnishes an excellent handbook for use of anyone interested in medical and sanitary inspection of schools.

BRUCE D. MUDGETT.

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OPPENHEIMER, FRANZ. *The State*. (Translated by John M. Gitterman.) Pp. v, 302. Price, \$1.25. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1914.

This book is a study of the origin and development of the state from the sociological and economic viewpoint. Its material is drawn largely from Ratzel's writings, and in its theory that state origin results from conquest it follows Ratzenhofer and Gumplowicz. The economic interpretation of history is emphasized throughout.

Its general thesis follows: There are two methods of securing wealth—production and robbery. The state, as a political organization, results from the latter, the forced subjection of the weak to the strong inevitably following the accumulation of wealth and the rise of economic differences. When capital is vested in land and other forms of realty the feudal state results, at first in the patriarchal tribal form, later in the more developed medieval type. When capital is vested in movable commodities the commercial state results. Of this form the independent city with its outlying trading posts is typical. As a money economy developed and standing armies grew in size, a centralized government resulted, reaching its climax in the Roman Empire. This was destroyed by the exploitation of slave labor. Later, when capital was vested in productive industries, the modern constitutional state was formed. In the future, through the increasing socialization of industry and the disappearance of private ownership of land, the political organization will become less,

and the economic organization more important. The final outcome will be a semi-socialistic "freeman's citizenship," in which class interests have entirely disappeared.

While decidedly one-sided in its neglect of all factors save force in state origin and of all influences save the economic in state development, the book is a brilliant study of certain important phases of political evolution. The author errs in believing that the social-contact theory of state origin is still seriously held, and in considering the political and economic organizations of society as separable and antagonistic. The translation is unusually well done.

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POND, OSCAR L. *Public Utilities*. Pp. liv, 954. Price, \$6.00. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1913.

This is a work of great merit that will be useful to practicing lawyers, state officials and members of public service commissions. At the present time over one-half of the states vest in a commission authority over most municipal and other utilities. A few cities have established municipal public utilities commissions. The activities of these public bodies and of the attorneys who appear before the commissions make such a work as that by Mr. Pond of especial value.

The early part of the volume contains chapters which consider in detail the legal powers of the municipalities, and discusses the legal questions connected with franchises and municipal contracts. Problems of taxation are also considered. The latter part of the book is concerned with problems of regulation of the services and charges of public service corporations. In the chapters upon municipal ownership, the author takes a conservative position, his view being that, "with an efficient regulation and control of the service furnished by municipal public utilities and the rates charged for it, the necessity for municipal ownership as a means of regulation and control in the majority of cases at least would disappear." The author, however, believes that each municipality should be in a position to adopt the policy of municipal ownership whenever conditions justify such a course.

The next to the last chapter of the book discusses and advocates municipal bureaus or commissions as a useful and necessary aid to the city in regulating public utilities. The final chapter of the book considers state public utilities commissions which are claimed by the author to be necessary. The state public service commission is required for the regulation of utilities outside of the big cities in which public utilities commissions may be justified. Even in the case of large cities it is desirable that the state should have such authority over public utilities as may be necessary to deal with interurban questions.

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RIVES, GEO. L. *The United States and Mexico*. Pp. xiv, 1446. Price, \$8.00. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1913.

No branch of the foreign affairs of the United States is susceptible of such widely different interpretations as our relations with Mexico. The events